contractual teacher for teaching other Indian languages can be made provided 20 or more students in a class opt for the same. In Classes XI and XII, any other language other than the compulsory core language can also be opted for as an elective subject.

Courses in water management and water harvesting

696. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UGC has decided to introduce courses in water management and water harvesting in all the universities;

(b) if so, whether the course/syllabus has been finalized;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether any Expert Committee has been constituted to look into the finalisation of syllabus; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the UGC has decided to introduce add-on courses of Watershed Technology/ Management in universities covered under Section 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 and are interested/desirous of introducing the courses in their respective universities.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A circular has been issued by the UGC along with a model syllabus to all the universities in the country, with a request to submit proposals for the courses in Watershed technology/management under the UGC Scheme of Career Oriented Programme.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Introduction of grading system for board examinations

†697. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme regarding declaration of result of board examination of 10th and 12th standard according to grading system in all the States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.